

4/27/01

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of	:	William Armstrong ROOKE
Serial no.	:	
Filed	:	
For	:	BUSINESS INTELLIGENCE SYSTEM
Group Art Unit	:	
Examiner	:	
Docket	:	GRIHAC P35AUS

The Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Dear Sir:

By way of preliminary amendment, please amend the above identified application as set forth below.


**In the Abstract:**

Please cancel the abstract, in its entirety, in favor of a clean form of the abstract, without any markings thereon, accompanying this response. Also accompanying this response is a copy of the original abstract which show the addition(s) (by red ink) and the deletion(s) (by strikeout) to the canceled abstract page. Please enter the replacement abstract into the record of this case.

**REMARKS**

Accompanying this response, please find replacement pages and marked-up pages of the abstract which overcome some informalities noted in the specification on file. The undersigned avers that the enclosed replacement page(s) of the specification do not contain any new matter.

[illegible]

Respectfully submitted,  
  
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## Abstract

The present invention relates to business intelligence systems. An enterprise's business intelligence may be embodied in business intelligence artefacts such as reports, queries, analytical documents, spreadsheets, etc. Over time, many of these documents are produced. The same artefacts may be produced by different departments in an enterprise. This is an inefficient use of resources. Further, when a user is producing an artefact, they add their own knowledge to the artefact (in the form of table names, column names, etc. that they have selected themselves using their business knowledge). This knowledge is not accessible. The present invention provides a system and method which enables this knowledge to be accessed, by analysing the artefacts which are produced by an enterprise and producing metadata which can be queried to access the knowledge locked up in the artefacts.

## ABSTRACT

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